

April 30, 2016

**To:** Rick Scott  
Special Assessment Unit  
Office of the Los Angeles City Clerk

**From:** Raquel K. Beard  
Executive Director  
Central City East Association

**Subject:** Downtown Industrial District First Quarter Report  
January 1 to March 31, 2016

As required under Agreement #C-124929 with the City of Los Angeles, I am submitting our 2016 First Quarter Report summarizing key activities of the Downtown Industrial District BID.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- On March 1<sup>st</sup>, Beard and a film crew documented the homeless crisis in skid row and the horrific conditions. The video titled "Skid Row Emergency" has been highlighted by several media outlets. The goal is to keep this emergency exposed and continue to pressure local governments to treat it as so.
- On March 17, BID employee Jesse Ramirez was stabbed while standing at the bus stop (7<sup>th</sup>/San Pedro). The stabbing was unprovoked, the predator appeared to be under the influence, and he is still at large. Beard testified in Council Chambers informing the Council of this horrific incident and how something needs to be done immediately to address the increasing crime.
- During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, Beard continued to testify in Council Chambers, Public Works Committee, and the Homelessness & Poverty Committee meetings regarding LAMC 56.11.
- Beard met with the Mayor's staff to express the need for immediate improvement in the area. Both sheltered and unsheltered people in the district are being victimized by predators daily.
- Beard and Camarillo met with Capt. Farhan (LADOT) and CD14 again to discuss issues with parking enforcement officers unfairly issuing citations. The BID will be requesting several parking requirement changes throughout the district.

- BID Staff continues to attend Community Police Advisory Board meetings, LAPD Basic Car meetings, LAPD Crime Control meetings, as well as monthly meetings for pertinent community groups and government agencies.
- The BID area continues to experience increases in the population of unsheltered persons living on the sidewalks. This population continues to accumulate property and extend their encampments the width of entire sidewalks, and attach their tarps to private property. Crime continues to increase. Property owners are overwhelmed by the number of unsheltered persons encamping against their buildings' walls. The BID continues to speak regularly with the Mayor's office, Council Office, LAPD, City Attorney's office, and other City departments. The BID continues to serve as a conduit of information for business owners who are impacted by the ever growing encampments and unsanitary conditions on the streets within the BID.
- BID staff continued to document streetlight outages throughout the District. BID continues to make it a priority to alert the necessary City departments when lights are out or need increased wattage by providing a detailed list of the outages to both the Bureau of Street Lighting and the LADWP on a monthly basis.
- Staff continued to utilize the BID computerized mapping system to effectively visualize critical public safety information on the district's map, on which hazardous incident trends are identified, and potential problems are mitigated at the earliest possible stage, all of which provides a cleaner and safer environment, thus improving business in the district.
- BID public safety officers handled 4,818 calls for service/responses, and provided 296 extra patrols. Some of the calls for service/responses include drug activity, drinking in public, fights, loitering, illegal dumping, and trespassing. Extra patrols involve increased patrol in areas of the District considered to be "hot spots" for criminal activity, in particular copper wire theft.
- As of March 31, security expenditures for the first quarter were \$180,494.

## **MAINTENANCE**

- Illegal dumping continues to be a big issue in the Industrial District. BID staff met with Street Services to identify hot spots for dumping. During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter merchants along San Pedro were fined again for dumping their trash on San Pedro/Winston, and ordered to provide a dumpster for their business. The Toy District continues to be a problem for the Industrial District.
- 1<sup>st</sup> quarter a total of 17,919 bags of trash (269 tons) was collected in the Industrial District; 938 illegal dumping/bulky items were removed; 163 instances of graffiti were removed; 133 blocks were weeded.

- The BID continues to pressure wash the district daily; Mon-Fri 7am to 1pm.
- As of March 31, maintenance expenditures for the first quarter were \$139,339.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- Beard, the webmaster for the Downtown Industrial BID's website continues updating general information as well as uploads newsletters, adding links etc. Throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, Beard provided social media posts regarding events, activities, and important news relating to the District.
- During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, the BID welcomed Comfort LA to the district. Comfort LA is a restaurant specializing in soul food. The location is 1110 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, Beard met with and presented the Central City East planning study to the Downtown News, Councilmember Huizar, and the Planning Department. The study was highlighted in the Downtown News. The goal is to have the plan incorporated in the community plan updates.
- During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, Beard met with several stakeholders, governmental offices, and social service providers. All parties are affected by the conditions in Skid Row and it is important for Beard to forge partnerships, as well as speak to the issues and the need for solutions.
- Beard met with Sara Hernandez of CD14 to discuss inclusion of the Industrial District in the DTLA Forward initiative. As usual, the Industrial District is never thought of when it comes to initiatives that are district improvements related. The excuse is always homelessness. However, I pointed out to Sara that the district has the highest numbers of jaywalking and pedestrian/vehicle accidents because there are 22 uncontrolled intersections, compared to high vehicle traffic. Beard asked that the Industrial District be included in DTLA Forward and identified 6 intersections that either need crosswalks or LPI (headstart) lights. CD14 seemed receptive to the idea.
- On March 29, Beard met with Mark Trotz and Libby Boyce (Dept. of Health Services) to discuss the new sobering center that the County is opening on Maple Street in Skid Row. Beard expressed concerns that the center would become a dumping ground for police officers and EMT's throughout the City of LA, and that there should be strict protocols put in place to prevent that from happening. The center is supposed to be restricted to alcoholics picked up by Fire Station 9 and LAPD Central Area.
- As of March 31, economic development and communications expenditures for the first quarter were \$51,219.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Beard attended the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter meetings of the Los Angeles BID Consortium.
- A quorum of the Board met on January 26, 2016.

- During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, Beard continued to answer weekly public records requests from Adrian Riskin. The requests began in October of 2015.
- Beard attended the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter meetings of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council, which she is a member representing the Central City East business seat.
- During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, Beard met with legal counsel regarding litigation. Mediations continued at the U.S. District Court- Central District of CA Western Div. regarding litigation (L.A. Catholic Workers).
- As of March 31, administrative expenditures for the first quarter were \$61,403.

## Los Angeles Downtown Industrial District

### Annual Limits & Year-To-Date Totals Quarter Ending March 31, 2016

BUDGET LINE ITEM	ANNUAL BUDGET	REVENUE TO DATE	AMOUNT SPENT 1st QTR	AMOUNT SPENT YEAR-TO-DATE	PROJECTED SPENDING FOR REMAINDER OF THE YEAR	EXPLANATION OF VARIANCE
Assessment Income	2,090,325	996,069				
City Fees	20,516		21,169	21,169	(653)	
Contingency/Reserve	82,064		20,516	20,516	61,548	
Administration	256,432		61,403	61,403	195,029	
Security	941,451		180,494	180,494	760,957	This report is on the cash basis. Additional expenses will be accrued at year end.
Maintenance	595,276		139,339	139,339	455,937	
ED&C/Marketing	210,107		51,219	51,219	158,888	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,105,846</b>	996,069	474,140	474,140	1,632,359	

Other Income (not included above):  
 Prior Year(s) Assessment Income Received  
 General Benefit Income-City of L.A.  
 Penalty Income  
 Interest-City of L.A.  
 Interest-Bank  
 Misc Receipts  
 Total Other Income as of March 31, 2016

9,276	
10,000	
5,011	
1,351	
25	
-	
<b>25,664</b>	